

Boston, Feb. 6, 1857.

My dear Mrs. Child:

161 I am just on the wing for western New York, to attend a series of Anti-Slavery Conventions in that quarter, and ~~cannot~~ send you a very brief answer to your interesting and suggestive letter.

I own the three volumes of Abby's Travels in the U. S., and they are at your service for any length of time you may desire. I shall leave them in the care of my wife, to be given to you when you come to the city, as I shall be absent at that time.

I thank you for calling my particular attention to the manner in which you have treated the subject of slavery, in your admirable work on the Progress of Religious Ideas; and

on my return home, (probably about
the 23d instant,) I will gladly make
suitable extracts for the Liberator.

I shall say nothing to any one
about your inquiries on the subject of
Spiritual Manifestations. I am a firm
believer in the reality of these Manifes-
tations, after the many things I have wit-
nessed, and the various tests I have
seen applied; yet I am not a credu-
lous man, nor at all given to the
marvellous, and seldom exercise my
ideality. True, there are many discrep-
ancies, incongruities, and absurdities
attending these Manifestations; but not-
ing do I find so puerile, or so prepost-
erous, as the various theories which are
started to account for them, short of
a spiritual origin. I regret that I am
to be absent from the city at the time
you are to be here, and so can make
no arrangement with you to test the
matter.

I do not greatly wonder at your "distrust of professional paid mediums"; and yet, is it unreasonable, if I ask a person to give me his time, his room, &c., for him to require some remuneration, especially when (as is generally the case) he is very poor? Beyond a doubt, some mediums are base impostors, and are pursuing the business merely as selfish adventurers.

The best medium I have ever seen is a Mrs. Tribou, of Hanover, in this State, who comes to this city occasionally, and has just returned home. I wish you could see her, because I have no doubt you would obtain what you so much desire. She is most reliable, and remarkable as a writing, rapping, tipping, healing, and personating medium — being manifold.

Mrs. Eddy will be a good person to consult when you come to the city.

With warm regards to Mr. Child, and unbounded esteem for yourself, I remain,

Ever truly yours,

Wm. Lloyd Garrison.

W. L. Garrison